

# BUSINESS NEWS



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

## Economic Development – More Important Than Ever

Most people are probably not aware that this week, May 4-9, is Economic Development Week. It was created by the International Economic Development Council to increase awareness of local programs that create jobs, advance career development opportunities, support businesses and improve the quality of life in communities.

Now, more than ever, economic development is essential. Local businesses are suffering, workers lost jobs nearly overnight, recovery is uncertain and the fear, frustration and despair emanating from all corners of our economy is palpable. Since day one, our staff has been on the front line of this disaster, doing all we can to gather information, provide guidance and support every business owner, employee and citizen seeking help.

The magnitude of the situation we find ourselves in will likely be protracted, chronic and widespread. The future remains unclear and there are currently no certain pathways to guaranteed success – for any of us. That said, we want you to know that we are here. Every day. During Economic Development Week. Through the month of May. Into the summer. And into next year if it takes that long, to support, guide, listen, educate, help, connect, promote and celebrate every little success our business community achieves.

We know this will be a marathon and not a sprint, and that the finish line is nowhere in sight right now. But we have already begun planning for our collective recovery. In the coming days and weeks, we will be providing new tools, programs and resources to help our community get through this – hopefully sooner rather than later. And hopefully stronger than ever.

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## #CalvertStrong

Calvert County is home to many great businesses that are committed to making a difference in our community in good times and bad. Over the last several weeks, we have seen a great deal of determination and camaraderie being displayed by our Calvert business community. We appreciate all that you do!

Do you know of a Calvert County business that is stepping up? Have you seen a company going the extra mile to care for their employees or support our community?

This is your chance to show thanks to the businesses that are working hard during a very difficult time. Please submit your thoughts to [\*\*Economic Development\*\*](#). Let's continue the crusade of #CalvertStrong!

- Wear Your Spirit Warehouse is printing free "We're Open" banners for local restaurants to help advertise that their location is open for carryout, curbside or delivery options. They are also working with multiple local hospitals to fulfill and donate orders of laser cut "ear savers" for hospital workers to wear with their masks

and their “Here For Good” campaign has donated over \$5,200 directly to small businesses and first responders.

- Chick-fil-A in Prince Frederick has donated food to many local students, health care facilities and first responders throughout Calvert County.
- Ruddy Duck Brewery & Grill has launched the “Brew Right Do Right Campaign” to collect food and masks to support both local food banks and essential workers.
- DJ Brian Crow of Crow Entertainment is going live on Facebook on Saturday nights to provide free entertainment.
- Dunkirk-based PATRIOT delivered six converted PODS® storage containers to United Medical Center in Washington, DC, this month. These are the first cost-effective units that can be mass-produced as medical stations for Coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) patients.
- When the national call to action sounded for public donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in mid-March, College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Health Sciences Division Chair Dr. Laura Polk rallied CSM colleagues and got to work. Since March, through the generosity of alumni, employees and the community, the CSM Foundation has disbursed more than \$38,000 for food and incidentals directly to CSM students in immediate need.



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## Drive-Thru Market Success

The market opened its season on April 28, 2020, at CalvertHealth Medical Center and did a brisk business. Operating as a drive-thru farmers market, citizens were able to purchase local produce, meat, bedding plants (vegetables and herbs) and more while maintaining a safe social distance from vendors and other citizens.



The CalvertHealth market will continue every Tuesday, 2:30 to 6:30 p.m., through November 24 with the drive-thru market in effect throughout the COVID-19 State of Emergency. The Calvert County Farmers Market Association is working in partnership with the CalvertHealth Community Wellness team.

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## Verizon Offers Relief

Verizon is extending its commitment to keep their customers connected through June 30. This means they will neither terminate service nor charge late fees to postpaid wireless, residential and small business customers that notify them of their inability to pay their bills due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Customers can notify Verizon by visiting [here](#).

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## Take Advantage of Online Training at CSM's Workforce Center

Boost the productivity, innovation and competitiveness of your workforce with business and essential skills training on a variety of subjects and skills needed to be successful in the workplace. From computer basics to industry certifications, online courses can help take your workforce to the next level so you can stay on the cutting edge. Register [here](#).

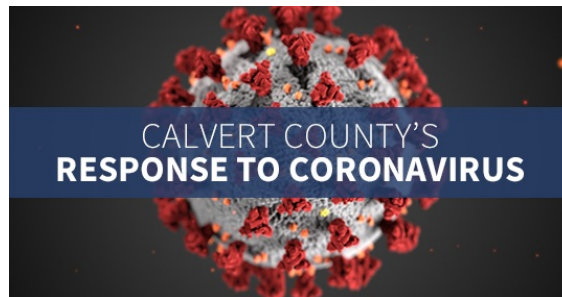
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## Calvert County Jigsaw

Looking for a new challenge? Try our [online jigsaw puzzle](#)! You can adjust the number of pieces to make it as easy or as hard as you want. Good luck!

Interested in making your own online puzzle? Please visit:  
<https://www.jigsawexplorer.com/create-a-custom-jigsaw-puzzle/>.

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## Latest COVID-19 Info

Don't forget to check our dedicated [COVID-19 Response and Resources page](#) for regular updates and information.

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## Census 2020

As our community confronts COVID-19, the importance of the 2020 Census is becoming even more clear. Census data informs decisions about critical health care services – including the future allocation of vaccines and funding for emergency services. It's important, easy, safe and confidential – and only takes a few minutes. Complete the 2020 Census today online or by phone. Click the image below to get started.



